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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): Steve Mitchell
Appl. No.: 10/684,668
Confirm. No.: 3396
Filed: October 14, 2003
Title: ARTIFICIAL VERTEBRAL DISK
REPLACEMENT IMPLANT WITH
CROSSBAR SPACER

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Bruce E. Snow

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 8, 2004.

S. Bhattacharya (Attorney Signature)
Suvashis Bhattacharya, Reg. No. 46,554
Signature Date: December 8, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-official gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at: pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed. However, copies of cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), as still required, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which

- 1 -

complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

— The present application was filed prior to June 30, 2003. A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is enclosed, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

— If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

✓ — **PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).** Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

This statement should be considered because:

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

✓ — **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --

- ✓ (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

-- OR --

— (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

(1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;

-- AND --

(2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);

-- AND --

(3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

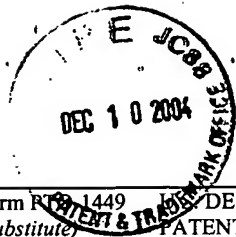
Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 12/8/04

By: S. Bhattacharya
Suvashis Bhattacharya
Reg. No. 46,554

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Form PT-1449 (Substitute) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <i>Information Disclosure Statement</i> BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Attorney Docket Number KLYCD-05008US1	Serial/Patent Number 10/684,668
	Applicant/Patent Owner Steve Mitchell	
	Filing/Issue Date October 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3738

U.S. PATENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Issue Date	First Named Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	1.	5,352,225	10/04/1994	Yuan et al.			
	2.	5,454,812	10/03/1995	Lin			
	3.	5,527,312	6/18/1996	Ray			
	4.	5,554,191	9/10/1996	Lahille et al.			
	5.	6,048,342	4/11/2000	Zucherman			
	6.	6,068,630	5/30/2000	Zucherman			
	7.	6,190,414	2/20/2001	Young et al.			
	8.	6,368,351	4/9/2002	Glenn et al.			
	9.	6,458,131	10/1/2002	Ray			

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date	Applicant

PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Petition to Expunge? Yes No
	10.	2001/0012938	08/09/2001	Zucherman et al.	
	11.	2004/0138750	07/15/2004	Mitchell	
	12.	2004/0143332	07/22/2004	Krueger et al.	



FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes No
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include author (if any), title, publisher and place of publication, date and pertinent pages)							
<u>Examiner</u>				<u>Date Considered</u>			
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							
<hr/>							
*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN / _____, filed _____, 20____, relied on under 35 USC §120.							
*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN / _____, filed _____, 20____, relied on under 35 USC §120.							



STATEMENT

(Attachment to Information Disclosure Statement)
(Use only if required)

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement*; or

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date:

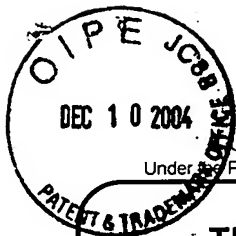
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By:

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/684,668
Filing Date	10/14/2003
First Named Inventor	Steven T. Mitchell
Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	Bruce Edward Snow
Attorney Docket Number	KLYCD-05008US1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Copies of International Search Reports
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Fliesler Meyer LLP	Customer No.	23910
Signature	<i>S. Bhattacharya</i>		
Printed name	Suvashis Bhattacharya		
Date	12/8/04	Reg. No.	46,554

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	<i>S. Bhattacharya</i>		
Typed or printed name	Suvashis Bhattacharya	Date	12/8/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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